

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00
NSC-05 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00
PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 DODE-00 /058 W
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FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3721
INFO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
USLOSACLANT NOFROLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 2252

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, NPG, PFOR, NO
SUBJ: NPG MEMBERSHIP

REF: STATE 104268

1. IN OUR VIEW GON IS NOT LIKELY TO RAISE QUESTION OF EN-
LARGING NPG MEMBERSHIP BUT IT WOULD VERY LIKELY SUPPORT AN
AMENDMENT TO NPG MEMBERSHIP TO PROVIDE FOR PERMANENT
NORWEGIAN PARTICIPATION IN GROUP'S DELIBERATIONS. NORWAY
WOULD , WE BELIEVE, CONSIDER PRESENCE OF ALL ALLIES AN
ACCEPTABLE, IF NOT NECESSARY, PRICE TO PAY FOR ITS
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OWN PARTICIPATION.

2. GON PLACES HIGH PRIORITY ON CONSULTATIONS ON BROAD
RANGE OF ISSUES IN NATO, FOR THIS IS THE PRINCIPAL
FORUM FOR GON TO MAKE INPUT INTO WESTERN DEFENSE POLICY.
NUCLEAR WEAPONS STRATEGY, EMPLOYMENT, STORAGE AND MOVE-
MENT HAS BEEN OF KEY CONCERN TO GON DURING POST WAR

PERIOD, AND PROHIBITION OF PEACETIME STORAGE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN NORWAY IS BASIC TENET OF NATION'S DEFENSE POLICY. RECENTLY ON NUCLEAR ISSUES NORWEGIANS HAVE COME TO LOOK WITH INCREASING INTEREST ON CONSULTATIONS WITHIN THE ALLIANCE NPG FRAMEWORK WHICH HAS GIVEN THEM THEIR MAJOR OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE PART IN DISCUSSION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. GON DEFENSE UNDER SECRETARY JOHAN JORGEN HOLST, WHO IS AN INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN SCHOLAR AND WORKER IN POLITICAL/MILITARY FIELD, HAS DEEP PERSONAL INTEREST AND COMPETENCE IN NUCLEAR WEAPONS STRATEGY AND WE FEEL CONFIDENT WOULD WISH TO KEEP GON ASSOCIATED WITH NPG DISCUSSIONS ON PERMANENT BASIS IF THAT WERE POSSIBLE.

3. WHILE INFORMED GON OFFICIALS RECOGNIZE THE NECESSARY LINKAGE BETWEEN NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL ARMS ISSUES, NORWEGIAN PUBLIC IS INCLINED TO PERCEIVE NUCLEAR WEAPONS ISSUES SEPARATELY AND MORE EMOTIONALLY. IN VIEW OF THIS WE BELIEVE THE GON WOULD WANT TO MAINTAIN THE SEPARATION OF NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS ISSUES, AND NOT TO MELD THEM. THEY WOULD CERTAINLY WANT TO KEEP SEPARATE THE QUESTION OF NUCLEAR WEAPON EMPLOYMENT.

ANDERS

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